USAASC Newsletter

Preparing for the Future: People, Teamwork, Partnership, Leadership





U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center, 9900 Belvoir Road, Bldg 201, Suite 101, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5567

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Acquisition News

2007 U.S. Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Awards Winners

The acquisition community held its 2007 AAC annual awards ceremony on Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott. The event recognized the accomplishments of the acquisition workforce's most extraordinary members and the teams they lead. The ceremony's theme, "Celebrating Our Acquisition Stars," was a tribute to the uniformed and civilian professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide combatant commanders and their Soldiers the weapons and equipment they need to execute decisive, fullspectrum operations in support of the global war on terrorism. Presentations included the Secretary of the Army Award for Excellence in Contracting; Army Life Cycle Logistician of the Year Award; Department of the Army Research and Development Laboratory of the Year Awards; Secretary of the Army Awards for Acquisition Director: Project and Product Managers of the Year and the Army Acquisition Excellence Awards. The 2007 U.S. Army AAC award winners are posted on USAASC's Web site under "LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT." Click on below link for information:

http://asc.army.mil/docs/press/2007_AAC_Stars.pdf. For more information about the 2007 AAC Awards Ceremony, contact Mike Roddin at (703) 805-1035 or e-mail mike.roddin@us.army.mil.

Wear of Army Uniform and Insignia

DAPE-MSO message, dated 161818Z Oct 07, Subject: AR 670-1, 3 Feb 05, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia. As an exception to policy outlined in AR 600-82, Enlisted Soldiers awarded military occupational specialty 51C are authorized wear of a regimental distinctive insignia. POC for the Uniform Policy Branch is SGM K. Easley, DSN 225-5287, Comm (703) 695-5287 and e-mail Katrina.easley@hqda.army.mil.

Continuous Learning Modules (CLMs)

Users can apply for the following CLMs: CL Module CLC 132 Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI), CLP-1 (Provides an overview on how to recognize situations that could lead to an OCI), CLM CLE 013 (Modular Open Systems Approach to DOD Acquisition) and CLP-4 (Identifies the essential elements of modular open systems, the steps to communicate that technical approach effectively to all stakeholders and how to execute that approach effectively) http://clc.dau.mil/.

Log Courses Redesignation

Effective Nov. 1, 2007, LOG 235B will become LOG 236 and effective Jan. 1, 2008, LOG 201B will become LOG 201. In order for these new course designations to appear on individual AITAS drop-down menus, they must be added to Individual Development Plans (IDPs). IDPs must also be reapproved by supervisors. Class offerings will not appear in LOG 235B for classes beginning after Oct. 31, 2007, and will not appear in LOG 201B for classes beginning after Jan. 1, 2008. You will need to access the new course designation title. The course content, accreditation and CLPs will not change; only the title. The "A" portions will also change: however, the implementation dates have not yet been determined. A separate announcement will be advertised once those dates become available. Please continue to apply for LOG 201A and/or LOG 235A until that announcement is made. You may direct questions or concerns to your Acquisition Career Manager at http://asc.army.mil/contacts/acms.cfm.

AL&T Workforce News

Army Leaders Plan to Add 74,000 Soldiers by 2010 Washington Post, Oct. 10, 2007. Top Army leaders stated that they plan to add 74,000 Soldiers to the Army by 2010, two years sooner than originally planned, to relieve the strain on forces stretched by the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Army leaders said they will do it largely by persuading more Soldiers to stay in the armed forces, as well as by getting the help of National Guard recruiters who will work to direct some of their recruits to the active-duty Army. Army Chief of Staff GEN George W. Casey, speaking to the Association of the United States Army vesterday, said Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates approved the plan to hasten the increase by two years to give Soldiers more time at home between deployments and to improve staffing and educational opportunities. Gates, in a memo to Secretary of the Army (SECARMY) Pete Geren late last month, approved the acceleration plan, as long as there is no reduction in recruiting standards. The planned increase would bring the total number of Soldiers in the active-duty Army to 547.000. http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/article/2007/10/09/AR2007100902360.html

Army Refitting More Humvees Faster With New Approach

Army News Service, Oct. 11, 2007. The Army has cut to a fraction the time it takes to rebuild battle-damaged Humvees with a new assembly-line process at Red River

Army Depot (RRAD), TX. RRAD is one of 12 Army commands to receive the Shingo Prize Public Sector Award for Excellence in Manufacturing and Achievement, called by Business Week the "Nobel Prize for Manufacturing." RRAD was also one of only three Army depots to receive Shingo's Gold Medal. In 2004, RRAD overhauled only about three Humvees per month, according to the Army Materiel Command (AMC). Now, an average of 23 rebuilt Humvees roll out of the depot daily. RRAD Commander COL Douglas Evans told an audience at the "Warrior's Corner" exhibit at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting that Lean Six Sigma principles were used to transform business practices at the depot. http://www.army.mil/-news/2007/10/11/5566-armyrefitting-more-humvees-faster-with-new-approach/

Army Takes Further Action to Fight Fraud

Army News Service, Aug. 29, 2007. Throughout 2007, the Army has undertaken a rigorous effort to remediate weaknesses in contracting. The SECARMY has established two efforts to broaden the Army's ongoing efforts to ensure policies and procedures are in place for all joint, expeditionary contracting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait and to better prepare the Army for acquisition and logistical support of combat operations in the future. First, a Special Commission on Army Contracting has been given a broad charter to examine current operations as well as to ensure future contracting operations are more effective, efficient and transparent. The Special Commission on Army Contracting is led by the Honorable Jacques Gansler. former Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics. The Commission will fully examine theater acquisition and program management processes; review management controls to prevent fraud, waste and abuse; assess legislative needs; and recommend changes in policies and procedure. Second, an Army Contracting Task Force has been stood up to reinforce and immediately address existing contracting issues and aggressively implement fixes as problems are identified. The Army Contracting Task Force is cochaired by LTG N. Ross Thompson III, Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology and Kathryn Condon, Executive Deputy to the Commanding General, AMC. http://www.army.mil/-newsreleases/2007/08/29/4653army-takes-further-action-to-fight-fraud/

Army's Contracting Task Force

DA Message, dated 071717Z Sep 07, Subject: "Operations Order for Assessing Contracting Issues In Support of (ISO) the Secretary of the Army's Internal Task Force." LTG N. Ross Thompson III and Kathryn Condon, representing the Secretary of the Army (SECARMY), will co-chair an Army Task Force to look at current contracting operations and implement reforms and corrections expeditiously. The mission of the Army's Contracting Task Force is to examine current Army operations and future plans for providing contracting support to contingency or other military operations. The Task Force will also establish a contracting operations

review team to review all existing contracts awarded by the Army Contracting Agency, Southwest Asia (ACA-SWA) and take immediate corrective actions as necessary to prevent any further fraud waste and abuse. Additionally, the Task Force will review the management of the delivery of contracting support to contingency or other military operations by assessing personnel staffing levels; effectiveness of organizational structures to include command and control; and adequacy of internal contracting controls, oversight, accountability and management. For additional information, contact MAJ Gregg Rupkalvis at (703) 805-2732/DSN 655-2732, gregg.rupkalvis@us.army.mil or Mr. Mitchell Colston (703) 805-1245/DSN655-1245, mitchell.colston@us.army.mil.

AAC Upcoming Events

2008 Army IT Conference

- March 31 April 3, 2008
- Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ

http://asc.army.mil/docs/conferences/ascp/2008_AITC.pdf

Procuring Contracting Officer/Intern Training Symposium

- Atlanta, GA
- April 21-25, 2008

Competitive Development Group/Army Acquisition Fellowship Orientation and Graduation

- Arlington, VA
- February 2008 (Date TBD)

Important AAC Links

U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center

http://asc.army.mil

Army AL&T Magazine

http://asc.army.mil/altmag/

Acquisition Management Branch

https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/opfam51/ambmain.htm (AKO registration required)

Comments to the Editorial Staff

The USAASC Newsletter editorial staff is accepting articles. Writers Guidelines can be found on the AAC Transformation Web page. To open our Web page, click on the following link. http://asc.army.mil/transformation We encourage you to address issues or concerns to MAJ Gregg Rupkalvis at (703) 805-2732/DSN 655-2732 or gregg.rupkalvis@us.army.mil